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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**GROUP 1700**

MAY 19 2003

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In re Patent Application of

SOTOYAMA et al

Atty. Ref.: 427-53

Serial No. 10/018,793

Group: 1761

Filed: December 21, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: FOOD MATERIAL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME,  
AND CHEESE-LIKE FOOD AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE  
SAME

\* \* \* \* \*

May 16, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Attention is invited to the attached copy of an Official Action mailed March 13, 2003 in the counterpart New Zealand application and a copy of the document cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of the attached document is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

Each item of information disclosed herein was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application. This communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than 30 days prior to the filing date of this statement as evidenced by the attached copy of a letter to said person received May 1, 2003. [37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)].

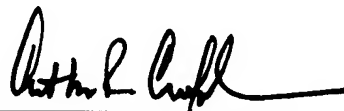
I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

427-53

SERIAL NO.

10/018,793

APPLICANT

SOTOYAMA et al

FILING DATE

December 21, 2001

GROUP

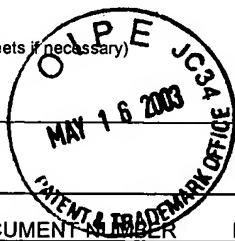
1761

**GROUP 1700**

MA: 19263

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(Use several sheets if necessary)



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

[illegible]

\*Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.